

# RITORNELLO

## Department of Music and Dance West Texas A&M University



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### MUSIC DEPARTMENT ONLINE

On September 1, the Department of Music and Dance was launched into cyberspace with a large website on the Internet. We have led the way in the university by providing a comprehensive site that has become a model for other departments.

The site is the project of Robert Hansen. "I attended some workshops offered by the Media Services Department, and learned the language needed to create web pages. I took it from there and found that each idea for the site inspired many more. After I completed the over-all design, I programmed the pages of the site. Madeleine Tainton, Media Services Librarian, has been an enormous help with advice, providing color and graphics, proof-reading, and lots of good suggestions." As a result, the department website offers information and complete outlines for all the degrees offered by the department. Each faculty member has an individual home page, to which they can add as much as they like. Information about performing groups, student organizations and activities, and facilities are also included. Throughout the website, browsers have the opportunity to e-mail directly from the Internet to any faculty member and to the music office. Donna Flatt has already had e-mail correspondence.

A calendar of events lists all concerts and recitals scheduled. The calendar is updated monthly and events are posted two to three months in advance.

In addition to information regarding departmental activities, we have provided links to some of the groups in which WT faculty members are active. Links currently include the Amarillo Symphony, the Lone Star Ballet, Amarillo Opera, and the National Opera Association.

Portions of the website are still under construction. "I understand completely the term 'web,' said Hansen, "since each section of the site links to other pages and on to still more. It is complicated to make sure there are no dead-ends for the browser.

"For that reason, I chose to set up the site as if it were a self-guided tour that constantly invites the browser to go through the next door, as if moving from gallery to gallery in a museum. At the moment, the website consists of just over 100 separate documents."

The last touch will be the exit page that will allow browsers to sign the guest book, request information, submit completed scholarship applications, obtain information regarding programs and camps, and so on. That feature will be available just as soon as the university installs the necessary hardware at the computer center.

You can find the WTAMU Department of Music and Dance at this url: <http://www.wtamu.edu/academic/finarts/music/index.html>. Check it out!

## ALUMNI, FRIENDS, AND PATRON NOTES

We received a letter from **Jim Dees** ('58-'59 undergraduate) that we thought might be of interest to our readers:

"I just received my copy of *Ritornello* and was moved by the article on Juenelva. I was fortunate to sit next to her in the Amarillo Symphony while still a Berger high student and then to be next to her in band her senior year. She has always been a very special person.

"I thought the readers may want to know about the reunion we had last year for A. Clyde Roller and the Amarillo Symphony. We found over 100 people who had been in the orchestra from 1948 to 1961 and more than 70 returned to pay tribute to this man who inspired so many of us Texans to go into professional music. The reunion was held in February of 1995 and we had returnees from as far away as England and Canada. We found that ex-members of the symphony and West Texas graduates were in the orchestras of New York, Chicago, Jacksonville, San Francisco and the Opera Orchestra of Chicago as well as the New York City Ballet. Many had doctorates and were teaching at the college level or were administrators of large high schools. For many of us it was the first time we had seen each other in over 30 years.

"Because of the combined inspiration of Mr. Roller, David Kaplan, Matilda Gaume, Mary Ruth McCulley, Elsa Porter, and all those faculty in the mid-fifties, there are many of us

WT grads out there trying to give back what we have learned.

"After I had played professional clarinet for many years, I got a graduate degree in arts administration and had the privilege of helping the Berkeley Symphony bring Kent Nagano to that orchestra. For the past 20 years I have had my own talent agency here in San Francisco. But I am such a West Texan that I pursued and now have the honor to represent the Harrington String Quartet."

**Sue (Smith) Hassler** ('68 BM) has a piano studio in Kent, Ohio. "I have 30 students and am trying desperately to keep up with the latest technology. I have a grand piano (acoustic) and also a digital keyboard (Roland) hooked up to a computer and to a sequencer. I'm also director of music and organist at Faith Lutheran Church, where I've been for the past 18 years. My husband, Donald M. Hassler, and I have four kids, all grown, and one perfect granddaughter. I'm the piano guild chairman for Kent and belong to various and sundry music organizations. I did get a master's degree in piano pedagogy from Kent State University in 1982."

**Bryan Burton** ('71 BME) writes, "I was granted tenure this year [at West Chester University in West Chester, PA] and have been promoted to the rank of professor of music education. Three more

publications have included chapters by me (*Multicultural Perspectives in Music Education*, Second Edition, *Many Seeds, Different Flowers: The Music Education Legacy of Carl Orff* [an Australian textbook], and *Multicultural Songs, Dances and Singing Games* [published by the Organization of Kodaly Educators]) and I have lessons included in nine books of the Strategies for Teaching series being published by MENC including quite a percentage of the materials for instrumental ensembles. Oddly enough, I provided source melodies and program note information for recent band works by Anne McGinty and Quincy Hilliard. I am now serving on the editorial advisory board for MENC and doing committee work for the Society for Music Teacher Education. The usual round of conference presentations wandered through the U.S. and swam the Atlantic for a week of lectures at the Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts and Charlotte Mason College (University of Lancashire) and another week in Amsterdam presenting three sessions for the ISME world conference. Isn't it amazing how differently our careers progress from what we envisioned as undergraduates?"

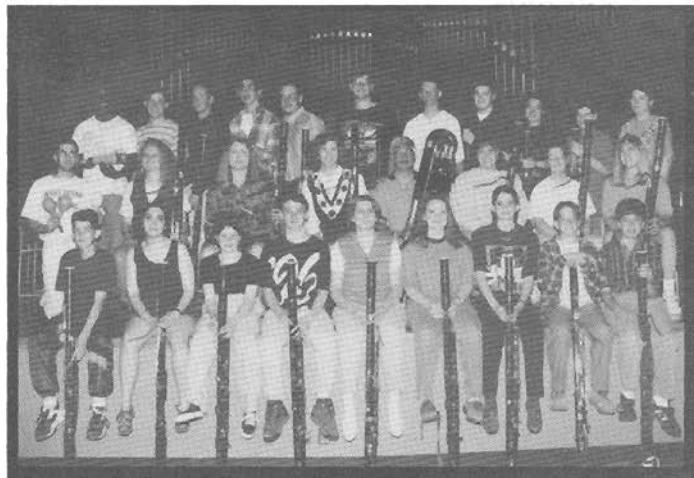
**Randy Storie** ('71 BME, '78 MA) is currently in his 26th year of teaching. He has been the director of bands at Robert E. Lee HS in Midland

for 17 years. This past year, the Lee Honor Band performed at the 49th annual Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago. In addition to directing the award-winning "Rebel Band," Randy is busy with his duties as chairman of the band division of TMEA.

**Chrystal La Pin Franklin** ('76 BME) is teaching eighth-grade English in Plainview, TX, but still plays clarinet in the Plainview Symphony. She also teaches some private clarinet. Her son, Mark, is in the sixth grade and just began cornet at school this past year. Her older children, Daniel and Beth, are off at college.

**Frank Davis** ('77 BME) is the new superintendent in the Channing ISD. He has taught in Channing for 19 years. He and his wife, Melody, have two children.

**Bobby Gene Fishback** ('78 BME) wrote an e-mail last April. "I married Jeanine Weber who graduated from WT the year before me in 1977. She was a vocal major. We moved to Coahoma where I was the JH band director for three years. Jeanine started teaching choir at Runnels JH in Big Spring, which was only ten miles away. I took the Forsan High School job after Coahoma, and I have been here for the past fourteen years. I teach five band classes a day and one computer class. I have been teaching computers for the past four years and really



## EIGHTH ANNUAL BASSOON BASH

enjoy it. Jeanine kept her job at Runnels for thirteen years and made sweepstakes with her choirs every year. Four years ago she began teaching elementary music in our district so she could have more free time with our kids and now we have the same holidays.

"We have two children. Jerrod is fifteen and plays the trombone in my band. Megan is ten and is in the fifth grade.

"I have been a bad band director in some respects. I do not do band camps during the summer. I am away from my children enough during the school year so I spend my summer with my kids. We have a hundred acre farm in central Texas outside of a little town called San Saba. Every summer we pack up and move there and we do not come back until it is time for school to start. We have a tank fifty yards from the house where the kids swim and fish every day. I on the other hand have to spend all my time working the cattle. All three of them! The

movie star Tommy Lee Jones has a ranch close to us. Jerrod and I have worked cattle with him and had lunch with him in San Saba. Right after that he hit it big in the movies and we haven't seen him since.

"I bought an airplane twelve years ago and have really enjoyed flying. That is one reason I have not been through Canyon. My in-laws live three hours north of Canyon in Hooker, Oklahoma. It takes us eight hours to drive and only two hours to fly, so we fly. Now I fly for a local funeral home on the side. They have a much fancier high performance airplane. The passengers I carry never gripe about the ride. Yes, they are deceased.

"My family belongs to the Church of the Nazarene in Big Spring. It is a big part of our life and we really enjoy the people. I play the bass guitar and we have a good time. There is absolutely no reason Amazing Grace can't have a boogie woogie bass

line with it!" E-mail address: [bfishbac@directnet.net](mailto:bfishbac@directnet.net)

**Mike Roberts** ('78 BME, '82 MA) will begin full-time teaching at Oklahoma Panhandle State University. He has taught adjunct for six years teaching form and analysis and applied lessons. He has taught at Guymon for 18 years. He has been hired to teach theory classes, form and analysis, instrumental pedagogy, and direct the band.

**Kristina (Mathis) Roberts** ('83 BMT) teaches about 25 hours a week of private piano and works 20 hours a week at a family business. Mike and Kristina have three daughters ages 10, 8, and 6.

**Bob Simmons** ('79 MA) was involved in a serious automobile accident on his way to the Amarillo Symphony Labor Day concert when his car collided with a parked semi-trailer. He's out of danger now, but he has been hospitalized since the accident. He is home now and his email address is: [snrsimmo@arriba.nm.org](mailto:snrsimmo@arriba.nm.org).

**Larry Champ** ('80 BME) and wife Cathy are living in Lewisville. Larry is a pilot for Continental Airlines, flying out of Houston. He continues (in his seventh year) as pianist at Grace Temple Baptist Church in Denton, and has performed several religious solo piano concerts in the past 3-4 years. Cathy is a counselor in the Denton ISD, an aerobics instructor, and Shaklee distributor.

**Donna Horn Ham** ('80 BM) gave birth to her fourth child, Donna Clarisa, in August, a six and a half week premature birth. She is only 5 pounds but doing well for such a premature birth. This makes four girls!

**Teri Waldrop Burnett** ('82 BMT) and husband Jerry moved to Tulsa from Houston in February 1992 where Teri has been a partner in private practice since 1994. Teri has also opened an office in Bartlesville. Teri and Jerry enjoy being close to family and when they're not doing home improvements, they play with their two dogs, Moses and Cami.

I received a message from **Lloyd Hanson** ('82-'87 music faculty). He writes, "Sally and I are still very busy with our work at Northern Arizona University. I am director of Opera-Theatre and teach voice and Sally is director of the Woman's Chorale and teaches voice and is the accompanist for the Opera-Theatre. Our day begins at 9 a.m. and ends at about 10 p.m., but we do enjoy the excellent students we have, the satisfaction of working together, and the opportunity of doing some really exciting work on a major show each semester. We had two excellent productions this year: *La Traviata* in the fall and Sondheim's *Company* in the spring."

**Scott Myers** ('84 BME, '89 MA) is the assistant band director at La Joya HS in La Joya, TX.

**Jeff Witcher** ('85 BME, '91 MA) is assistant band director in Stratford.

**Shelly Van Doren** ('86 BME) is head band director at Schimelpfenig Middle School in Plano.

**Joe Pruitt** ('87 BME, '94 MA) is at Dulles Middle School in the Fort Bend ISD as an assistant to Lisa Drew.

**Jim Drew** ('88 MM) moved to a new school in Ft. Bend called Garcia Middle School. **Lisa (Hunter) Drew** ('89 BMMB) moved to Dulles Middle School. On December 19, 1995 they had an addition to their family: Nigel Hunter Drew.

**Pano Mata** ('88 BME) is the band director at Odessa High.

**Mary Ann Molnar** ('89 BMT) and **Mike Ellis** ('94 BM) were married this summer. **The Reverend Darren Dye** ('87 BM, '89 MM) officiated. Mary Ann is the music therapist in the Amarillo ISD; Mike is the new band director at Vallyview JH in the Canyon ISD. Both play in the Amarillo Symphony Orchestra.

**Diane Syrcle** ('89 BM) has been hired at the Portland Opera as coordinator of education and community outreach. Duties will include stage direction and casting of touring shows, vocal workshops, singing and acting workshops as well as continued performance venues in the northwest.

**Diane (Hernandez)**

**Duran** ('90 BME) wrote a nice, long letter. She was the band director at Myra Green JH in Raymondville, TX, for four years (until 1995). Her husband, Adrian Duran, was in the Marines, and applied for a job with the Austin Police Department, so they now live in Austin. Diane is taking a break from teaching. She is working on a business administration degree and works at Progressive Auto Insurance. She still practices her flute for "therapy." She and her husband have been married for three years. No children yet, but they do have a Pembroke Welsh Corgi named Rimshot and a German Shepherd named Texas State Trooper, Trooper for short.

**Amy Beebe** ('91 BM, '93 MM) is still living in Norwalk, CT, where she works in a doctor's office and sings in the local "Grass Roots Opera Company."

**Caryn Herrick** ('94 BM, '96 MM) plays oboe in the Midland-Odessa Symphony and teaches oboe in the schools.

**Mark Alewine** ('94 BME, '95 MA) is a private saxophone instructor in Plano.

**J. David Finnell** ('94 BME) is the French horn instructor at Donna HS in Donna, TX.

**Fouad Fakhouri** ('94 BM) is attending Penn State. He's in his third year on a dual master's program: composition and orchestral



**PAULA HILL SCHOLARSHIPS: left to right: Stephen Edwards, Daniel Graham, Sean Vokes, and Cynthia Beard.**

conducting. He's been teaching freshman sight-singing. He will have his new work for string orchestra, harpsichord and tympani performed by the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra. Last summer he conducted the National Music Conservatory Orchestra performing Beethoven's First Symphony at the Jaresh Festival in Jordan. His e-mail address is [fkf1@psu.edu](mailto:fkf1@psu.edu). That's the number one, not the lower-case L. [OK, this next part is off the record. Fouad sent me (Ted DuBois) a CD: "The Idiot's Guide to Classical Music." He says it was only 99¢, so it didn't set him back too much, but there was one sentence in his letter that needs to be seen by someone other than myself. Oh, sure, I know it's for my benefit, and someone has to say it: "When I saw this CD at the store, I remembered your FA 101 course." Isn't that a great line? There are times, however, when you wish students didn't remember as much as they do. Thanks,

Fouad, I really have enjoyed the CD and I'm learning a lot from it! I've worked my way up to a moron.]

**Cliff Brown** ('95 BME) is now in his second year as orchestra director at South Grand Prairie HS. He also teaches at Jackson Middle School and has 95 string students.

**Cai Lei** ('96 BM) is a graduate assistant at the University of Tennessee. His e-mail address is [cai@utkux.ulcc.utk.edu](mailto:cai@utkux.ulcc.utk.edu)

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Grace Parkinson Wood Crandall** died March 28, 1996, at age 101. She graduated from Amarillo HS in 1913 and received her bachelor's and master's degrees from West Texas Teacher's College. She lived most of her life in West Texas except for a few years spent in Colorado. She taught music in the public schools in West Texas and



was a member of various music clubs. She is survived by a son, John W. Wood of Amarillo; two daughters, Janice Patton of Amarillo and Genelle Towner of Denver; a brother, R.B. Parkinson of Amarillo; 11 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and 12 great-great-grandchildren.

**Weldon Bright**, class of 1942, passed away in Sedona, AZ, on March 19, 1996. Weldon and his wife Nell Stevenson Bright, class of 1941, had lived in Sedona since 1984. They have both been active in the internationally known Jazz on the Rocks Festival and Weldon was still playing "gigs" for jazz parties and special events. He and his trio presented a jazz concert at the Sedona Art Center in 1995. Weldon lived in Amarillo for many years appearing on radio and TV and with his trio in the tri-state area. He moved to Phoenix in 1962 where he taught music in the public schools and played his jazz-style piano in many of the resorts in the Phoenix-Scottsdale area. A memorial service was held on March 22 at the Church of the Red Rocks in Sedona. Eighteen of Weldon's musician friends provided the music for the service. Besides his wife, he is survived by daughter Diane Jones, son Kim Bright and stepchildren Margo Thurman and Scott Jennings. Weldon is the brother of the late Dr. Houston Bright.

**Scottie Johnson** ('77 BME) died October 20. He was president of the band and Kappa Kappa Psi. In 1981

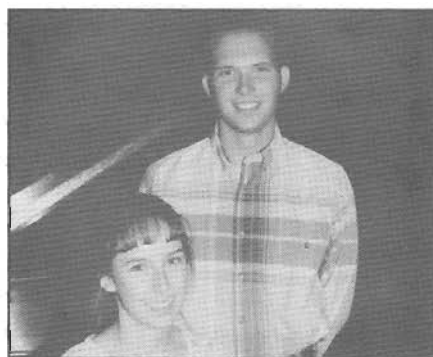
he received a Master of Divinity degree and was a minister in Methodist churches in Amarillo, Adrian, Bovina, Hereford, Wildorado, TX; Toronto and Fall River, KS. Most recently he was in charge of receiving and purchasing at General Office Plus.

**Jency Dennis** ('81 BM, '83 MM) died in April 1996 after a prolonged bout with cancer.

Thanks to all who provided information. Please remember that you can still send information to *Ritornello* by way of e-mail to [ted.dubois@wtamu.edu](mailto:ted.dubois@wtamu.edu).

#### FACULTY FOOTNOTES

The spring 1996 semester found **R. J. Krause** teaching the history of opera class to nine music majors and thirty-three auditors (the majority of which were senior citizens). The class turned out to be a fun one to teach especially due to the wonderful input from such a variety of students. In June, Dr. Krause attended the 25th



**SHANNON SCHOLARSHIP:**  
Annette Murphey and Adrian Letz

International Double Reed Convention in Tallahassee, FL (accompanied by Dr. Tina Carpenter and two students, Caryn Herrick and Brandon Cameron) and June 22 to mid-August was spent teaching at Interlochen. While at Interlochen he performed on recitals for six different occasions.

**Dr. Norman J. Nelson** had three compositions published by Bocal Music Company. They are Rondo Ostinato and Toccata Bravura for bassoon and piano and Dance Pair for alto saxophone and band or alto saxophone and piano.

**Doug Storey** performed as a member of the Texas Clarinet Consort (a group consisting of 6 clarinet profs. from throughout the state) at the International Clarinet Society's Symposium-CLARFEST '96 in Paris, France. He has also been invited to be a soloist at CLARFEST '97 and plans to perform *Cadenzas* by Alexina Louie with Susan Martin Tariq.

**Susan Martin Tariq** will present a faculty lecture recital "Percussion in World Music" on October 31, 1996, at 8 P.M. in Northern Recital Hall. This recital is a result of Tariq's award of a 1995-96 Killgore Research Grant for the topic "An In-depth Investigation of the Use of Percussion Instruments in World Music."

**Robert Hansen** had a busy spring semester, performing the role of Alfred in Amarillo Opera's *Die Fledermaus* and

performing an all French recital. He spent his summer nights conducting the musical drama "Texas" in Palo Duro Canyon and his summer days building the music department's website on the Internet. He also continues his term as President of the National Opera Association. Under his leadership, the NOA has launched a major career development assistance program for minority singers aspiring to operatic careers.

**Ron Lemon** will be one of four horn soloists with the Lubbock Symphony in January performing Robert Schumann's *Konzertstücke* for four horns and orchestra. The other soloists are Texas Tech's Anthony Brittin and principal horns from the Ft. Worth and Austin symphonies. Concerts will be Friday and Saturday evenings, January 17 and 18, 1997.

**Stanley Potter** has completed research on Muzio Clementi's accompanied piano sonatas at the British Library, London, and has made a selection of them for publication. His next project is *Lyrical Etudes* of Carl Czerny.

From **Sally Turk**: "In addition to attending the American Symphony Orchestra League convention in Cincinnati (and visiting with Matt and Liz Lad and their beautiful girls), I toured Ireland with my mother. A few days of sailing with alumna Helen Blackburn and that famous retired sailor Rowie Durden got me ready to raft down the Colorado

River (through the Grand Canyon) with alums Becky Logue (Koenig) and Joe Pruitt. A trip to New York for the flute convention, a visit with alumna Amy Hamil (Barnhart) and the chance to play with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra in New York rounded out the nearly golf-less summer. I know - it's hard to believe. It's great to be back at work where I can get some rest!!!"

**David Murray** travelled to Belo Horizonte, Brazil, in August to be part of the Fourth International Bass Conference. David presented a recital, masterclass, and lecture about theatre music. He also gave a masterclass and recital at the Villa Lobos School of Music in Rio de Janeiro. David travelled to Korea this past January to participate in the Sorak Music Festival. David has given classes and recitals this past year in Tucson, New York City, Madison, and Houston. The Second Annual Double Bass Workshop was held at WTAMU from July 29 to August 4. The session included daily warm-ups, masterclasses, ensembles, and all-state sessions. There was a final concerto wrap up at the event. Bass camp had 10 this year, and 2 are now freshmen here at good ol' WT!

**Joe Cox** went to Laredo and gave clinics at all of the area high schools as well as a master class at the magnet school. Brenda and Joe also made a 150-200 mile hike of

the Appalachian Trail in August.

**Bill Evans** was musical director for the "Canyon Follies" this year. The show was written and directed by Dr. Robert Vartabedian and was a parody of "My Fair Lady." The idea of the show was to turn an "uppity" lady from New York City (Somebody get a rope!) into a Texas Redneck and at the same time poke a little fun at some of the recent happenings around Canyon. Mr. Evans arranged, composed, and performed the music for the show. The show, which was conceived as a money raising project for the local Chamber of Commerce, involved talent from the town as well as from the university. Everyone worked hard and put on four public performances attended by some 1200 people.

**Tina Carpenter** again performed as co-principal of the Victoria Bach Festival orchestra in Victoria, Texas. She also performed on the program of the International Double Reed Society's 75th Conference in Tallahassee, Florida, as part of a bassoon quartet. The quartet was made up of bassoon professors from the University of Arizona, the University of Arkansas, and West Virginia University.

## THE DEPARTMENT HEAD'S CORNER

Good news! The department is experiencing a wonderful infusion of new talent. The class of 2000

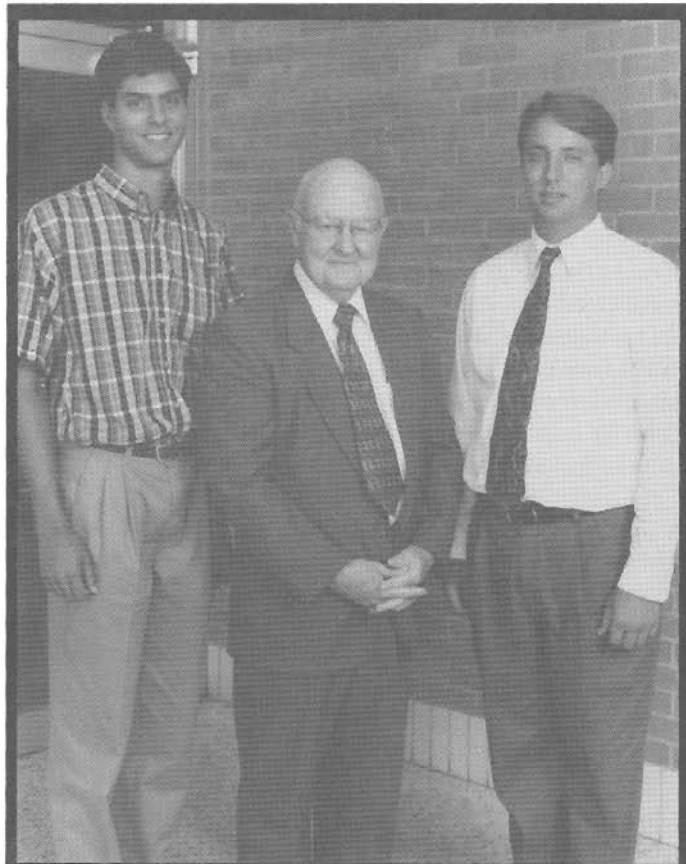
(i.e. new music majors in the fall of '96) is the largest in recent years. The marching band increased in overall numbers by 35, the largest increase in one year that any of us can remember. We've had to hire a new voice teacher. Student lockers are at a premium.

The downside of all this good news is that our scholarship funds have been hard pressed. It makes our annual drive for "Patrons" more important than ever. A brief review of last year's "Patron's Page" shows the following: 6 patrons contributed \$500 or more for \$3,805; 39 scholarship donors gave \$200 or more for \$7,875; 44 sponsors sent \$100 or more for \$4,840; 201 contributors donated \$25 or more for \$6,130; and 8 persons gave \$5 or more for \$125. This made the grand total of \$22,775

In addition to your donations, we also received SHOWCASE income from program advertising and ticket sales for a total of \$36,731. After expenses for the concert, this left \$20,074 to support our three designated goals. For 1995/96 the net proceeds were spent as follows:

Ritornello \$1,508  
TMEA Reception \$1,630  
Scholarships \$16,937

While all three of these goals are important, the \$17,000 for scholarships was crucial. We would not have our big class of new music majors without this support. It is not too much to say that the future of the department has been shaped by your generosity.



**STEP TEACHERS:** left to right: John Gaernter, intern at Amarillo High, Dr. Harry Haines, student teacher supervisor, and Brian Collins, intern at Lee High School in Midland.

We hope you will continue your support, or, if you have not been sharing in this campaign, consider adding your name to the patrons page. There has never been a time when your help was more sorely needed. The usual pink sheet is enclosed. We hope you will give special consideration to this year's appeal.

Harry Haines, Head  
Department of Music and  
Dance

#### **STEP TEACHERS ASSIGNED**

The first two STEP (Student Teacher Expanded Program) teachers in music have been assigned. They are John Gaertner at Amarillo High School and Brian Collins at Midland's Lee High School.

John is a clarinet major from Denton High School. Brian, a trombone graduate of Lee High School, is returning to his alma mater to intern. Both expect to graduate in May 1977, at the end of their internship.



STEP is a year-long program which substitutes for student teaching. It is an outgrowth of the "Pilot Program" in student teaching which was pioneered at WTAMU in the years 1990/95. Under a special ruling by the State Board of Education, WTAMU is the only university in Texas to offer this expanded, field-based approach for preparing teachers. A STEP intern receives 75% pay, is granted "teacher of record" status, and works under the direction of a committee of three (mentor teacher, building principal, university supervisor).

Independent school districts interested in employing a STEP teacher in music for 1997/98 should contact Dr. Harry Haines at the WT Music Office.

#### CHORAL ACTIVITIES

Greetings from the department of choral music! The goings on around the choral area are somewhat the same annually in that we produce several concerts that have developed into their unique existence. Fall, Christmas, Tour and Spring concerts, as well as the Hanging of the Lights consumes most of our efforts during the year, in addition to both the Collegiate Chorus and the WT Chorale appearing with the Amarillo Symphony Orchestra. Dates for these concerts are: Fall Concert-October 24; Amarillo Symphony-Nov. 13; Carol of the Lights-Dec. 2, Christmas Concert-Dec. 3; Chorale Tour Concert- Mar. 25; Spring Concert-April 18. In addition, we help with the

Madrigal Dinner on Nov. 16, Showcase of Music on April 4, and the Chorale is on tour in the Dallas area Mar. 19-21.

We have some good news for scholarship donors that want to multiply their dollars. The WTAMU Development Office has matching funds available for boosting gifts on a one-for-one basis. For each \$1 given, WT will add an additional \$1 to help increase the endowments for named scholarships that have less than a \$5,000 balance. Currently, these would include:

Royal Brantley Voice Scholarship  
Houston Bright Choral Scholarship  
McCulley-Porter Scholarship  
Martha Estes Music Therapy Scholarship  
J. D. Bayless Memorial Scholarship

Perhaps you have been thinking, as I have, of donating to the Houston Bright Choral Scholarship. Well, now is the time to "double" your money for that award or for any of these

other small endowments that need our help. All of you past members of the WT Chorale and Collegiate Chorus, now is a wonderful time to give back to your alma mater for the good things it bestowed on you. And, thank you in advance for your generosity.

#### WTAMU DANCE ENSEMBLE

The fall semester marks the beginning of another busy season for the WTAMU Dance Ensemble. Many of our dancers spent their summer performing in the outdoor musical drama *TEXAS* are back to dance classes and rehearsals, while new students are preparing for the dance experiences which lay ahead.

The ensemble got a jump on things in August on the first class day. Guest choreographer Rob Davidson choreographed a western ballet comedy that will be showcased throughout the year. The following week another guest choreographer, Kay Braden from Austin, worked with our dancers.



WTAMU DANCE ENSEMBLE

Braden choreographed a tribute to Elvis Presley which will be featured at the Amarillo Civic Center in February at the Lone Star Ballet "Premieres."

The WTAMU Dance Ensemble recently provided the entertainment for the Miss Amarillo Pageant at the Radisson Hotel. They performed at Barnes and Noble Bookstore for their ribbon cutting and helped out at the Lone Star Ballet garage sale. The sale was a three-day event and proceeds benefited the ballet and the WTAMU dance department.

On September 20-21st, the ensemble traveled to San Jon, New Mexico, to perform at the Caprock Amphitheater for the New Mexico Nurses Association. This was not the first time the ensemble performed at the Caprock. They performed in San Jon twice this past summer. After performing at San Jon, the ensemble will travel to Springfield, Colorado, to perform. The group will premiere many new pieces with styles ranging from country and western to folklorico, and Native American.

Other appearances scheduled for the dance ensemble include Friends of the Fine Arts and Golden Plains Nursing Home. Members of the ensemble are instructing dance classes for children in Borger and Panhandle in the two new dance academies they opened this year.

October saw no slowing of work for the ensemble. The dancers first performed at *Taste of the Arts* at Westgate Mall, and then participated in

the third annual career day performance at Sunray High School. Following their performance, several dancers shared their experiences in the performing arts with the Sunray students and answered the students questions about dancing and careers in the performing arts.

The dance ensemble also said goodbye to one of their members. Desiree Arterburn, who has performed in TEXAS for the past two years and has been a member of the WTAMU dance ensemble for two years, was just recently hired by Jean Ann Ryan Productions to appear in a Broadway revue. Desiree is the fourth dancer from the Lone Star Ballet to gain a position with this company, which produces entertainment for cruise lines

The WTAMU Dance Ensemble/Lone Star Ballet hosted the Queensland Ballet from Australia at the Amarillo Civic Center on October 21st. This company performed "Pirates," from *Pirates of Penzance*.

The ensemble is currently in preparations for what has become a favorite Christmas tradition. The beauty and magic of the Lone Star Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* will definitely touch the hearts of those who want to start the Christmas season off in the right spirit. *The Nutcracker* is scheduled to take to the stage of the Amarillo Civic Center Auditorium December 13-15.

Two WTAMU dance majors, Jerry Vizena and Tag Alberding, will be guest performers for Frank Schafenburg's production of



#### **MUSIC THERAPY SCHOLARSHIP: Stacy Hensel and Martha Estes**

*The Nutcracker* on December 20-21 in Fort Worth, Texas.

Janice Nash, a WTAMU dance graduate, travelled to Jackson, Mississippi, and is teaching for Ballet Magnificand and will be doing Ballet Mississippi's *The Nutcracker*. She will also be working in the dance department at Bellhaven College in Jackson.

The Dance Ensemble is looking forward to the spring semester. They will again attend the American College Dance Festival in Fort Worth and perform at "Dances at a Gathering," a three-day event with a gala performance in Dallas, Texas.

#### **MUSICAL THEATRE**

The Musical Theatre Workshop will present Rodgers and Hammerstein's award-winning musical about love and victory in the South Pacific during World War II. *South Pacific* will run February 12-22 at 8:00pm and February 23 at 3:00pm in the Branding Iron Theatre. Hear songs such as "Some Enchanted Evening," "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair," "Bali Hai," and "Honey Bun." Joe Ella Cansler is director of the

musical theatre workshop and Royal Brantley is stage director.

## ORCHESTRA

We've had some strong recruits in the string section this year and although we're a little bottom-heavy (8 violins, 5 violas, 6 cellos, 7 basses), all indications at this time point to a great year with the orchestra.

At this writing, we're hard at work on getting our first program ready for October 20. We hope to include *Image Excursions* by WT grad Darren Dye. Darren has reworked the original for four tubas and piano and set it for four tubas, strings, and percussion.

We plan to make a two-day tour on October 21 and 22 to Midland and Odessa.

Although we'll miss Dawn Harms and John Meisner, we have a wonderful replacement this semester in Laura Bossert. She is a very fine player with strong credentials. Last year she replaced Charles Castleman, the top violin teacher at Eastman, while he was on sabbatical.

## BAND

We have an outstanding freshman class this year, one of the largest and most talented ever. We also have a great group of returning students, and as a result the marching band is even bigger and better. We're sporting a new set of beautiful new uniforms this fall, thanks to the support of President Russell Long.

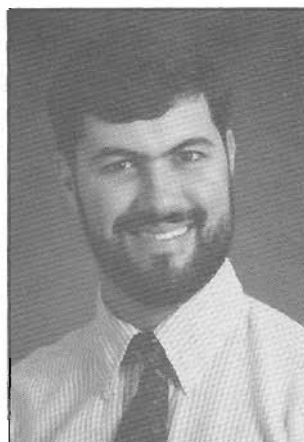
The marching band trip will be to Stephenville for the Tarleton game on October 12. The band will travel to Odessa on Friday to perform at the Permian-San Angelo game that night. We hope to see many of our exes along the way!

## OPERA WORKSHOP

Singers in opera workshop are hard at work on the preparation of a double bill of one act operas. The first, "The Poor Sailor," is by Darius Milhaud on a story by Jean Cocteau. A classic case of mistaken identity, maintaining pretenses, and blind devotion lead a woman to kill her husband (who is posing as a friend of his) in order to ease the guilt he feels for their impoverished circumstances. O'Henry! The second work is "With Blood, With Ink." The opera recently won the National Opera Association Chamber Opera Composition Prize for 1995. It is written by Dan Crozier and Peter Krask. An illegitimate girl enters the convent in Mexico, because she has no other options in society. She is very bright and is promised she will be allowed to study and write, but the promises are broken. She resists the efforts to subjugate her, but finally capitulates and dies an unfulfilled woman. Both works are powerful drama and challenging music. Performances are scheduled later this year.

## JAZZ BAND

Jazz at WT keeps swinging along. In addition



**JAZZ WINNER:**  
**Robert Hinds**

to our spring and fall concerts, the Jazz Band performed at the Greely Jazz Festival in April. We also took a jazz combo. Both groups performed very well and received good comments from the judges. Four of our members received outstanding performance awards; Phil Helm on bass, Robert Boone on trombone, Travis Barney on tenor, and Robert Hinds on trumpet. Travis Barney won a sax mouthpiece and several boxes of reeds. Robert Hinds won the top jazz award at the festival; a Deg Eb trumpet. On Saturday night, the combo performed at a jazz club in town which was a great experience for students. There were several good clinics and performances by the Yellow Jackets and Arturo Sandoval. The Arturo Sandoval concert was especially exciting. It was rather a hectic trip, but well worth the effort.

This spring the band will probably take a tour. If you are interested in having us perform at your school, please let Dave Ritter know.

Also, if you are interested in having an alumni band again, we could try to schedule a date for that.

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